



# PMTCT



# Goal of PMTCT

- Identify HIV positive pregnant women
- Reduce vertical transmission
- Ensure that HIV positive women and their infants are monitored after delivery and referred appropriately

# Components of PMTCT

- Service delivery as routine maternal and child health care service
- Counseling and Testing
  - Type of counseling (group counseling, individual CT, routine testing, VCT)
- Infant feeding counseling ensuring informed choices in infant feeding options

# Components of PMTCT cont.

- ARV prophylaxis for mothers and infants
- Follow up care for mothers and infants
  - Including cotrimoxazole prophylaxis for infants
- Referrals to treatment, care and support and family planning activities
- PCR testing for infants at 6 weeks
- Psychosocial support services

# Challenges

- Integration
  - Lack of integration at the National Provincial and district level
  - Lack of referral networks to ARV program, support services, child health services etc.
  - Women identified in PMTCT are not staged and referred to ARV programs
- Low uptake of PMTCT
  - Partly due to opting in of VCT
  - Lack of community and family support, partner involvement
  - Constant media scrutiny
  - Protocol controversy
- Training of health care workers
  - Knowledge
  - Attitudes
  - Collaboration between different cadres of health care workers
- Stigma
- Lack of follow up of mother-baby pairs
  - Mothers have to identify themselves as being in the PMTCT program
- Mixed Feeding
  - Mixed feeding is the norm
  - Lack of partner support/community support
  - Stigma around PMTCT formula tins
  - Stock outs of infant formula
- Stock outs of test kits, infant formula and other commodities
- Poor monitoring and evaluation
- Measuring impact of PMTCT is challenging

# What are the key program issues for PMTCT in FY07

- In line with government policy – single dose Nevirapine to mother and infant
- Integration
- Linkages
- Family Planning as an entry point
- Follow-up of infants
- PCR testing at 6 weeks and referrals
- Sustainability

# What are we monitoring?

The PMTCT program has been divided into the following components:

- Number of health care workers trained in provision of PMTCT services
- Number of service outlets offering minimum package of PMTCT services according to South African standards
- Number of pregnant women attending first antenatal care
- HIV counseling and testing and receiving test results during antenatal care
- Number of women counseled and provided with complete course of ARV prophylaxis
- Number of infants receiving ARV prophylaxis
- Number of infants tested by PR at 6-14 weeks
- Number of infants tested at 12 months
- Number of HIV infected women referred to a wellness program and/or treatment program